

Unitarian Universalist Church West – Order of Service – December 3, 2023

“The Mystery and Magic of Community Effervescence” - Rev. Julie Stoneberg

1. **Prelude** – “Divinum Mysterium” trad. plainsong chant, arr. by Edward Broughton - performed by Ruben Piirainen, Music Director

2. **Welcome** – Larry Hawley, Board of Trustees Representative

3. **Call to Worship** – “Our Lives Intersect and Intertwine” by Tania Márquez - Rev. Julie

4. **Chalice Lighting** - #434 (anonymous) - Larry Hawley and Rev. Julie

May we be reminded here of our highest aspirations,
and inspired to bring our gifts of love and service to the altar of humanity.

May we know once again that we are not isolated beings
but connected, in mystery and miracle, to the universe,
to this community and to each other.

5. **Singing Together** – #368 “Now Let Us Sing”

6. **Story for All Ages** - “Hey Wall” by Susan Verde - read by Matt Umstot

7. **Children's Recessional** - “As You Go, May Joy Surround You”, by Piirainen/Lynch

As you go, may joy surround you, As you go, go in peace.
Know our love is with you always – As you go, as you go.

8. **Meditation** - “Forged in the Fire of Our Coming Together” by Gretchen Haley - Rev. Julie

9. **Joys and Concerns** - Rev. Julie

10. **Sung Meditation** - #83 “Winds Be Still”

11. **Responsive Covenant** - “Inspirations” from the UUA Article II proposal – led by Scott Kopischke

Leader: Direct experiences of transcending mystery and wonder are primary sources of Unitarian Universalist inspiration.

Congregation: These experiences open our hearts, renew our spirits, and transform our lives.

Leader: We draw upon, and are inspired by, sacred, secular, and scientific understandings that help us make meaning and live into our values.

Congregation: These sources ground us and sustain us in ordinary, difficult, and joyous times.

Leader: We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in which these sources were created and are currently practiced.

Congregation: Grateful for the experiences that move us, aware of the religious ancestries we inherit, and enlivened by the diversity which enriches our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

12. **Reading** - “Collective Effervescence” by Margaret John Jankowski - read by Louise VerWert

- 13. Message** - "The Mystery and Magic of Communal Effervescence" - Rev. Julie
- 14. Interlude** - "Greensleeves" trad. English carol, arr. unknown - performed by Ruben Piirainen
- 15. Offering Words** – Matt Umstot, YRUU Advisor and Allison Byrne, Executive Director for Allies for Teens in Foster Care
- 16. Offertory Music** - "Grown-Up Christmas List" by David Foster & Linda Thompson-Jenner, arr. Brent Edstrom - performed by Ruben Piirainen
- 17. Reading** - "The Art of Creation: Mystery" (excerpts) by Louise Conner - read by Scott Kopschke
- 18. Singing Together** - #225 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
- 19. Closing Words & Chalice Extinguishing** – "Mysteries, Yes" by Mary Oliver - Rev. Julie and Larry Hawley
- 20. Postlude** - "The Holly & the Ivy" trad. English carol, arr. Chip Davis - performed by Ruben Piirainen

Our Split the Plate partner for December is Allies for Teens in Foster Care How to Give:

IN-PERSON: Loose cash and contributions (checks/cash) labeled "split" will be shared this month's Split the Plate partner organization.

ONLINE: Text "UUCW" to 73256 - OR – go to uucw.org and click "Donate"

MAIL: Mail a Contribution to UU Church West – 13001 W North Ave, Brookfield, WI 53005

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

Ushers: Eddee Daniel, Mary Ross, and Anne Deahl

Greeters: Gladie Strom and Joyce Cable

Newcomer Table: Peter Geiss

Coffee Volunteer:

Church and Table Decorations: The Holiday Decorating Team - Karen Zimmerman, Laurie Boddie, Hank Kulesza, Irene Heideman, Collen Gresk, Miles Bognar and Kelly Bognar

Today's Sound Technician: Miles Bognar